



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The Curators are able to report many improvements in the museum and buildings of the Academy during the past year, as well as important advances in the arrangement and growth of the collections.

In the early part of the year, through the increased funds at their disposal, the services of Dr. Henry Skinner and Mr. E. G. Vanatta were secured as Assistants; Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry was appointed Special Curator of Mollusca, while Mr. Henry W. Fowler has been employed identifying, arranging and caring for the collection of fishes.

With these additions the salaried staff of the Academy is now greater than ever before, and the work accomplished during the year has been correspondingly increased.

During the summer the outside woodwork of the buildings, which has been for some time badly in need of attention, has been entirely repainted, and necessary repairs have been made to the roofs.

A number of cases have been erected for the extension of the library and for the accommodation of additions to the herbarium and the study collection of mollusks, while eighteen moth-proof tin cases have been purchased for the study series of birds and mammals, in addition to five large wooden ones uniform with those provided last year.

In the museum seven plate glass cases have been constructed from the general appropriations and the income of the "Mary Jeanes Museum Fund." Three of these are of large size, two for birds and one for mammals, and cover collectively over six hundred square feet of floor space. Two other cases have been presented by Mr. Clarence B. Moore, uniform with those already installed, to accommodate the accessions to the "Moore Archaeological Collection." The large slab of fossil ferns presented by Mr. C. B. Nichols has also been enclosed in glass.

The opening of the museum on Sunday afternoons has been continued throughout the year, to the gratification of large numbers of persons who are unable to visit it on weekdays.

During the past summer the Academy has for the first time

maintained a table at the Wood's Hole Biological Laboratory. It was occupied through the season by Mr. H. W. Fowler.

Much of the work accomplished during the past year in the arrangement of the collections is described in detail in the reports of the Botanical, Conchological, Ornithological and Mineralogical Sections which follow, while the more important work of other departments is briefly outlined below.

Mr. Stone has spent the greater part of the spring and summer in the arrangement of the reptiles and batrachians, with the result that all the groups not handled last year have been catalogued and systematically arranged and many unidentified specimens named.

Mr. Fowler has continued his study of, and completely rearranged and relabeled the carp-like and deep-sea fishes, the eels and their allies, and the Cyprinodonts, comprising about two-fifths of the entire collection.

During the year the whole series of alcoholic vertebrates have been carefully examined and the alcohol replenished.

The mammalian skeletons and skulls have all been relabelled with special tags and a systematic card catalogue of all the mammal collections, has been prepared by Mr. Rehn.

In the Archæological department Miss H. N. Wardle has catalogued and arranged a large number of specimens, including most of the Haldeman Collection.

Through the generosity of Dr. L. T. Chamberlain, Mr. C. W. Johnson has continued his care of the Isaac Lea Collection of Eocene Mollusca. Six hundred and fifteen species have been added during the year, mainly through exchange.

Many important additions to the collections have been received since the preparation of the last report. The Zoölogical Society of Philadelphia has presented a number of specimens, one of the most notable being a full-grown Indian Rhinoceros, which has been mounted by Mr. David McCadden, the taxidermist.

Mr. Y. Hirase, of Kyoto, has continued to add most liberally to the conchological collection, furnishing many rare and hitherto unknown species. Mr. Arthur Erwin Brown has added largely to the department of reptiles, while a fine series of Porto Rican fishes was received from the United States Fish Commission.

Dr. A. Donaldson Smith presented a number of valuable birds, mammals and mollusks secured during his recent expedition to Lake

Rudolf, Africa. Mr. Alfred C. Harrison, Jr., and Dr. H. M. Hiller, who are at present conducting an expedition in the interior of Sumatra, have generously promised to the Academy such of their collections as are pertinent to its work, a portion of the material having been already shipped.

The Curators would express the indebtedness of the Academy to the late Thomas Meehan, Dr. P. P. Calvert, Theodore D. Rand, Lewis Woolman, Charles Liebeck and other members for aid in various departments, as well as to the students of the Jessup Fund, Miss H. N. Wardle, Edward G. Vanatta, James A. G. Rehn and H. L. Viereck.

Besides the frequent consultation of the collections by visiting naturalists, specimens have been loaned for study to C. D. Beadle, E. L. Morris, W. B. Scott, G. S. Miller, Jr., M. J. Rathburn, C. H. Ball, W. B. Clark, W. D. Matthew, B. L. Robinson, E. D. Merrill, J. W. Gidley, G. C. Martin, H. M. Smith, R. Ridgway, M. W. Lyon, Jr., J. Dwight, Jr., O. P. Hay, R. Bowdler Sharpe, R. Arnold, R. H. Howe, Jr., E. A. Mearns, A. W. Evans, B. G. Wilder, D. G. Elliott and Alpheus Hyatt.

HENRY C. CHAPMAN,  
SAMUEL G. DIXON,  
ARTHUR E. BROWN,  
HENRY A. PILSBRY,

*Curators.*

---

#### REPORT OF THE CURATOR OF THE WILLIAM S. VAUX COLLECTIONS.

The Curator of the William S. Vaux Collections would respectfully report that the specimens added have been fewer than in prior years, but have been unusually fine. Among them may be particularly mentioned a crystallized native copper from Lake Superior; five tourmalines, including an unusually fine achroite, two showing cat's-eye reflections; an excellent green tourmaline and rubellite, and a very remarkable opal from Australia.

Much interest has been manifested in the collections by the visitors to the museum.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE D. RAND,  
*Curator.*